

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A volatile decongestant delivery vehicle composition comprising:
 - (i) a flowable water-soluble film-forming matrix; and
 - (ii) a particulate volatile decongestant agent uniformly stationed therein.
2. The delivery composition of claim 1, wherein said matrix is a cellulosic material, a gum, a protein, a starch, a glucan, and combinations thereof.
3. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 1, wherein said matrix is selected from the group consisting of carboxymethyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, hydroxyl methyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, hydroxymethylpropyl cellulose, and combinations thereof.
4. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 1, wherein said matrix is selected from the group consisting of gum arabic, xanthan gum, tragacanth, acacia, carageenan, guar gum, locust bean gum, pectin, alginates and combinations thereof.
5. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 1, wherein said matrix is a starch selected from the group consisting of tapioca, rice, corn, potato, wheat and combinations thereof.
6. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 5, wherein said starch is gelatinized, modified or unmodified.
7. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 1, wherein said matrix is selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol, polyacrylic acid, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, poly(meth)acrylate, poly(meth)copolymers and combinations thereof.
8. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 1, wherein said matrix is a protein selected from the group consisting of gelatin, zein, gluten, soy protein, soy protein isolate, whey protein, whey protein isolate, casein, levin, collagen and combinations thereof.

9. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 1, wherein said matrix is selected from the group consisting of dextrin, dextran and combinations thereof.
10. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 1, wherein said matrix is selected from the group consisting of chitin, chitosin and combinations thereof.
11. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 1, wherein said matrix is polydextrose, fructose oligomers, and combinations thereof.
12. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 1, wherein said volatile decongestant agent is menthol.
13. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 1, wherein said volatile decongestant agent is menthol crystals.
14. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 1, wherein said volatile decongestant agent is present in amounts of up to about 0.1% to about 60% by weight of the total composition.
15. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 1, further including a decongesting volatile oil.
16. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 24, wherein said volatile oil is an oil selected from the group consisting of eucalyptus oil, menthol oil, pine oil, terpine hydrate oil, and combinations thereof.
17. The delivery vehicle composition of claim 1, wherein said composition is orally or intranasally deliverable.
18. The delivery composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is essentially free of a surfactant.

19. The delivery composition of claims 1 or 18, wherein the composition is essentially free of a plasticizer.
20. The delivery composition of claims 1, 18 or 19, wherein the composition is essentially free of a polyalcohol.
21. A method of preparing a thin film volatile decongestant delivery vehicle comprising:
- (a) providing a volatile decongestant agent complex;
 - (b) combining said complex with a water-soluble polymer and a solvent to form a decongestant mixture with uniform distribution of said complex therein;
 - (c) casting said mixture onto a planar carrier surface to form a thin film on said carrier surface; and
 - (d) controllably drying said thin film to form a distribution variance of said complex having less than about 10% variance throughout any given area of said thin film.
22. The method of claim 21, wherein said drying includes applying heat to the bottom of said carrier surface.
23. The method of claim 21, wherein said drying includes applying microwave energy to said film.
24. The method of claim 21, further including the steps of mixing said water-soluble polymer and said solvent to form a pre-decongestant mixture and mixing said pre-decongestant mixture to obtain uniform distribution.
25. The method of claim 24, the said complex is added after mixing said pre-decongestant mixture.
26. The method of claim 25, wherein the time of mixing said pre-decongestant mixture is greater than the time of mixing said decongestant mixture therein.

27. The method of claim 21, wherein the step of providing a volatile decongestant agent complex includes providing menthol crystals.
28. The method of claim 27, wherein the step of providing a volatile decongestant agent complex further includes a decongesting volatile oil.
29. A method of providing decongesting relief comprising:
orally or intranasally delivering the delivery vehicle composition of claim 1.
30. A decongestant article comprising:
the delivery vehicle composition of claim 1; and
an enclosure for said composition.
31. The article of claim 30, wherein said enclosure comprises a foil encompassing said composition.
32. The article of claim 31, where said foil is a metal foil.
33. The article of claim 30, wherein said enclosure comprises an outer film obtained from a flowable water-soluble film-forming matrix, wherein said outer film is essentially free of volatile decongestants.